

RUSSIANS WITHIN FIRING DISTANCE OF CRACOW

GERMANS STRIKE REPEATED BLOWS AGAINST BRITISH

English Compelled to Meet One Desperate Assault After Another.

GREATLY OUTNUMBERED BY ENEMY AT MANY POINTS

Colonel Swinton Reviews Situation for Six Weeks Preceding November 26.

ALLIES IN BETTER POSITION

Recently There Is Lull in Operations and Time for Readjustment of Forces.

LONDON, December 3 (S. P. M.).—Colonel E. D. Swinton, of the intelligence department of the general staff of the British expeditionary force on the Continent, in a narrative dated November 26, gives a general review of the development of the situation of the force for six weeks preceding that date.

There recently has been a lull in active operations, he says. No progress has been made by either side, and yet there has come about an important readjustment in the scope of the part played by the British army as a whole. He explains the movement from the River Aisne to the Belgian frontier to the position of the British army, and says that in assuming this position the British force was compelled to assume responsibility for an extended front of the front. He points out that the British held only one-twelfth of the line, no the greater share of the common task of opposing the enemy fell and still falls to the French, while the Belgians played an almost vital part.

With the fall of Antwerp the Germans made every effort to push forward a besieging force toward the west. Altogether they had 250,000 fresh men. Eventually the Germans had, north of Labasse, about four hundred corps and eight cavalry divisions, which is a force of 750,000 men, with which to attempt to drive the allies into the sea. In addition, there was immensely powerful armament, and heavy siege artillery, which also had been brought up from around Antwerp.

AT MANY PLACES ALLIES ARE GREATLY OUTNUMBERED

The eyewitness tells of blows delivered by the Germans at Neuport, Ypres, and other points, where "at first the allies were really outnumbered." For a while the British army around Ypres held its ground against repeated onslaughts by vastly superior numbers. The details of the German attacks and the desperate efforts of the British to hold their ground are given in detail. "The British force," says Colonel Swinton, "had to withstand an almost continuous bombardment, and to meet one desperate assault after another, and to do this by fresh units from the large numbers which the Germans were devoting to the operation." Finally, the French came to the assistance of the British, and the fighting was continued by the British alone, and never was help more welcome than that of our small local reserves again and again had been thrown into the fight in the expectation of counterattacks, and the British were exhausted by the incessant fighting.

The British front has been considerably shortened and, in addition, has been reinforced, while a lull has enabled the British to reorganize their forces, strengthen their positions and bring up the reserves. There has, therefore, been a great general improvement in the conditions under which the British are fighting. Of the fighting which preceded this reorganization, the writer said it was due solely to the resource, initiative and endurance of the regimental officers and men, and that success has been achieved with the British. He continues: "As the struggle swayed backward and forward, the fighting assumed a confused and desperate character. The British were in a desperate position in many cases, to strengthen some threatened point or to fill a gap in the line, officers had to collect and throw into the fight what men they could, regardless of the units to which they belonged."

CONTRIBUTED MATERIALLY TO SUCCESS OF CAMPAIGN

"The duty of the French, Belgians and British in the western theatre has been to hold on to and to keep occupied the enemy as long as possible, while the Russians were attacking in the east. In this we have played our part, and have contributed materially towards the success of the campaign."

"The value of years of discipline and training is as noticeable on the side of the enemy as on our own. The phenomenal losses suffered by the Germans have been remarked, and they were, in part, due to their lack of training."

The allies, continued Colonel Swinton, have undergone great sacrifices. The writer points out that the Germans continue to attack with great courage, and while they have not gained the Straits of Dover, they have consolidated their position on the western frontier, and retain all but a small portion of Belgium.

"As well as they have fought, however, continuing the offensive, it is doubtful if their achievements are commensurate with their losses, which recently have been largely due to a lack of training and a comparative lack of discipline of the improvised units they put in the field."

Colonel Swinton concludes with the statement that, as the war will be one of exhaustion, the ultimate triumph of the belligerents have done their work, success will depend on the raw material of the countries concerned.

READY FOR OPERATION OF COTTON LOAN FUND

Last Important Step Is Appointment of State Committees in Eleven Southern States.

CHAIRMEN TO DISCUSS DETAILS

Large Part of the \$100,000,000 May Never Be Used, but Plan Regarded as Successful Whether a Dollar Is Borrowed Under It or Not.

WASHINGTON, December 3.—The last important step in preparing for the actual operation of the \$155,000,000 cotton loan fund was taken to-day by the cotton loan committee when it completed the State committees in eleven of the Southern States. These committees will select local committees at once in every cotton-producing community. The cotton loan committee also announced to-night that a meeting of the chairmen of the State committees would be held here on December 15 to discuss details of the loan plan.

Although the plans for putting the fund into the hands of cotton producers have gone steadily forward, it was indicated to-night that possibly a large part of the \$100,000,000 contributed by Northern banks might never be used. Officials here realize that some Southern producers are not particularly enthusiastic over the plan, in view of the interest to be paid on the loan, and the prices now quoted on cotton on the New York and Liverpool exchanges. At the same time, it was said the plan is regarded as successful whether a dollar is borrowed under it or not. The very fact that the cotton exchanges have reopened, and that cotton is selling for fairly good prices, officials declared was due, to some extent, at least, to the completion of the loan fund.

STATE LOAN COMMITTEES ANNOUNCED IN WASHINGTON

The State loan committees announced to-night included:

Virginia—John M. Miller, Jr. (chairman), and Julien H. Hill, Richmond; Caldwell Hardy, Norfolk; Thomas B. McAdams, Richmond, and H. T. Nichols, Lynchburg.

North Carolina—Joseph G. Brown (chairman), Raleigh; W. C. Wilkinson, Charlotte; J. V. Granger, Wilmington; J. Elwood Cox, High Point; John F. Wiley, Durham; Neil Ellington, Greensboro.

South Carolina—R. G. Rhett (chairman), Henry Schacht and E. H. Pringle, Charleston; E. W. Robertson, Columbia; G. G. Howland, Sumter, and John M. Kinard, Newberry.

Tennessee—E. L. Riche (chairman), Memphis; S. E. Ragland, Memphis; Charles L. Lyle, Nashville; J. H. Weston, Chattanooga, and J. W. Vanden, Jackson.

STEAMER TO BE RELEASED

Treasury Department Finds No Grounds for Holding the Berwind.

WASHINGTON, December 3.—Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Peter to-night instructed the collector of customs at New York to grant clearance papers to the American steamship Berwind, recently detained by customs authorities there pending an investigation to determine whether she had violated the neutrality laws.

The Berwind was charged with furnishing contraband articles to a German vessel, it was said here, is clearing for Charleston to take aboard a cargo of cotton for Bremen.

FAVORS NEW PRISON PLAN

Garrison Recommends Sweeping Changes in Federal Policy.

WASHINGTON, December 3.—Sweeping changes in the Federal military prison policy are proposed in a recommendation Secretary Garrison has submitted to Congress. The plan, designed for inclusion in the army appropriation bill, would change the name of the United States Prison at Leavenworth, Kan., to "the United States Disciplinary Barracks," and extend the Federal paroling system. It would abolish the board of commissioners which governs prisons, and provide that its duties shall be performed by the Secretary of War or by officers he might designate.

EFFECTS OF WAR ON BUSINESS

Results of Comprehensive Study Show That Conditions Are Improving.

NEW YORK, December 3.—The results of the comprehensive study of the effects of the European war on business throughout the United States, gained from the reports received from more than 100 correspondents, including Governors, Mayors, officials of unions, industrial associations, banks and building associations, will be made public at the fifteenth annual meeting of the National Civic Federation, which begins here to-morrow.

The report says that conditions are improving, and predicts that a further advance toward prosperity will be witnessed during the next few months.

TO DISCUSS NAVAL PROGRAM

Chairman Tillman Will Confer With President Wilson on Monday.

WASHINGTON, December 3.—Chairman Tillman, of the Senate Naval Affairs Committee, will discuss the naval program with President Wilson on Monday. After conferences with the representative Gardner, who wants a congressional investigation of the country's military preparedness, and Representative Wheeler, who wants a subcommittee making appropriations for fortifications, Mr. Wilson expects to discuss the question of national defenses with other congressional leaders.

KRUPP FACTORY BOMBARDED

Bombs Dropped on Buildings by Airman Who Escapes Uninjured.

LONDON, December 3.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company quotes a message from Berlin to the effect that the Krupp factory at Essen, Germany, was bombed yesterday by an aeroplane. It is said that bombs were dropped from the aeroplane on the buildings devoted to the manufacture of cannon. The airman escaped uninjured, and the extent of the damage has not been ascertained.

DAVID LAMAR SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS IN PRISON

"Wolf of Wall Street" Found Guilty of Impersonating Representative Palmer.

JURY OUT FORTY-FIVE MINUTES

Counsel Announces That Appeal Will Be Taken to United States Supreme Court—Admitted to Bail in Sum of \$10,000.

NEW YORK, December 3.—David Lamar was to-day found guilty of impersonating Representative A. Mitchell Palmer, of Pennsylvania, for the purpose of defrauding J. P. Morgan & Co., and the United States Steel Corporation. He was immediately sentenced to serve two years in the Federal penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga. The jury deliberated on the evidence for forty-five minutes.

Lamar was convicted on two counts of the second of the three indictments against him. His counsel announced that an appeal would be taken to the United States Supreme Court on writs of error.

After counsel had interposed motions for a writ of error, and permission to file a bill of exceptions, Lamar was admitted to \$10,000 bail pending an appeal.

The crime of which Lamar—nicknamed by brokers "the Wolf of Wall Street"—was convicted, is one seldom entered on records of the Federal Court here.

REPRESENTED HIMSELF AS CONGRESSMAN PALMER

The government charged that Lamar and his friend, Edward Lauterbach, a lawyer, entered into a conspiracy to obtain money from the United States Steel Corporation and the Morgan firm by representing themselves as agents of Speaker Clark and other men high in Congress. To further this conspiracy, Lamar and Lauterbach, together with Lewis Cass Ledyard and others, represented themselves over the telephone to be Representative Palmer, of Pennsylvania, said that he was acting with an imposter. In the meantime, Mr. Ledyard had seen Lauterbach and Lauterbach, Mr. Ledyard said, had demanded money for his services.

The indictment was found by the grand jury. Two of them charged Lamar with representing himself as an officer of the United States government; the third charged Lamar and Lauterbach with conspiracy. The one naming Lauterbach, District Attorney Marshall said, would be pressed against Lauterbach at an early date.

The indictment was made public. Lamar fled the jurisdiction of the Federal Court for the Southern District of New York and remained in Washington, whence he resisted extradition. He was, however, found here not long ago, walking in the lobby of one of New York's best known hotels.

AT HOME FROM VERA CRUZ

Transports Reach Philadelphia With 350 Officers and Men on Board.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., December 3.—Three hundred and fifty marine corps officers and men reached Philadelphia to-day on the transport San Marcos, which sailed from Vera Cruz the day the United States turned over that city to the Mexicans. The transports, Denver and City of Memphis, which were fog-bound with the San Marcos at Delaware Capes, will dock to-morrow.

The advance guard of the returning troops, which included the 1st, 2nd and 3rd regiments of the 10th, 11th and 12th regiments, will be given thirty days leave. Colonel Littleton W. T. Waller, in command of the marines, with his staff, is on the Denver.

PROTEST BY SPRING-RICE

British Subjects Oppose Arizona 50 Per Cent Alien Labor Law.

WASHINGTON, December 3.—Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador to-day presented to the State Department a protest from the British consul at Bisbee, Ariz., against the Arizona "50 per cent alien labor law."

The law, which provides that all persons or corporations employing more than five persons shall have in their service at least 50 per cent American citizens, was opposed at a meeting of British subjects, who asked that the ambassador here take the matter up with the State Department.

The State Department is said to be unable to take any action in the matter.

HEARINGS ON PROTESTS BEGIN

Mechanics in Navy-Yards Oppose Proposed Wage Reductions.

WASHINGTON, December 3.—Hearings on protests against proposed wage reductions for mechanics in navy-yards began to-day before Secretary Daniels and Assistant Secretary Roosevelt. The case of the men at the New York yard was heard, and others will follow in this order:

Norfolk, December 4; Washington, December 7; Annapolis, December 12; Portsmouth, N. H., December 14; Philadelphia, December 16; Newport, R. I., December 17; Charleston, S. C., December 18.

DUTCH STEAMER ASHORE

Crew Rescued by Life-Savers With Great Difficulty.

DEAL, ENGLAND, December 3 (via London, 10:40 A. M.).—During one of the fiercest gales on record, the Dutch steamer Batjan, of 6,000 tons gross, from Java, went ashore to-night on Goodwin Sands, after a collision with the British steamer Niobe.

The weather was so bad that the life-savers were unable to launch their lifeboats until early to-day, when they rescued the Batjan's crew with difficulty.

The Niobe later anchored in the Downs, and reported she had no casualties on board.

LUTHER L. SCHERER SHOT BY UNKNOWN MAN, WHO ESCAPES

General Claim Agent of Chesapeake and Ohio Desperately Wounded.

PHYSICIANS GO TO HIS AID BY SPECIAL TRAIN

Ball Removed in Critical Operation, and Midnight Reports Are Favorable.

SEVERAL SUSPECTS ARRESTED

Tramps on Passing Train Taken Into Custody, and Police Scour Neighborhood.

Resting More Comfortably

Mr. Scherer was stated to be resting more comfortably at 2:30 o'clock this morning. The head nurse at the Clifton Forge Hospital said over the long distance telephone that, while he was in no danger, his condition was in every way as favorable as could be expected after so serious a shock and such an operation.

Luther L. Scherer, general claim agent of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, who has been the Sherlock Holmes in more important criminal cases than, perhaps, any other man in Virginia, was shot and seriously wounded near Covington early yesterday morning. Mr. Scherer, with Special Agents A. M. Richardson, J. E. Rice and A. H. Hendrickson, was en route to a meeting with Payne's Grade, a mile east of Covington, investigating a series of freight-car robberies, when the party was fired upon by a man standing between two cars of a passing freight train. Four shots were fired. One of them struck Mr. Scherer, entering the left side of the back and lodging three inches from the spine and just above the hip. Mr. Scherer fell in his tracks. The freight train was moving slowly, and was immediately flagged by his comrades, and they swung themselves aboard the train.

Mr. Scherer was arrested, but it was said last night that the assailant had escaped. WOUNDED MAN HURRIED TO CLIFTON FORGE HOSPITAL

Mr. Scherer was placed aboard the freight, and a record run was made to Clifton Forge, where the victim of the assassin's shot was placed in the Chesapeake and Ohio Hospital. He was attended by Dr. J. C. Wyser, of Clifton Forge, but the wound was regarded as being of such a dangerous character that friends and family in Richmond were notified, and a special train was made up to carry Dr. George Ben Johnston and Dr. W. T. Oppenheimer, chief surgeon of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, to Mr. Scherer's side.

Mrs. Scherer accompanied the physicians, and last night Mr. Scherer's two sons were called. An operation was performed in the afternoon, and the latest advices received last night stated that Mr. Scherer was resting well, and that all the indications were in his favor.

WAS INVESTIGATING CAR ROBBERIES

Recently several freight cars, near Payne's Grade, have been broken into and robbed, and Mr. Scherer, who was in Clifton Forge, decided to make a personal investigation. With the assistance of his men, he was standing by the railroad tracks when the freight train passed. As one of the forward cars passed there was a white man leaped out from behind a bush and fired four shots in rapid succession. Startled by the fusillade, the detectives turned to shield themselves, and as they turned one of the bullets—evidently from a .35-calibre revolver—struck Mr. Scherer in the back.

He swung around from the impact and fell. The train was moving slowly, and the others, bent on catching the would-be murderer, swung themselves aboard and waved to the engineer. The train was stopped and several tramps were arrested. Whether the man who fired the shot was in the number is not definitely known, the latest dispatches saying that it was believed he had escaped. Mr. Scherer was placed on the train, and the prisoners were also taken to Clifton Forge, where police and special agents will make every endeavor to discover the man who fired the shots.

MAY HAVE PICKED SCHERER AS HIS TARGET

Whether the man fired at random or picked out Mr. Scherer as his target no one connected with the investigation could determine last night, but the general belief was that some miscreant recognized the famous special agent, and on the chance of escaping on the train, took a pot shot at him.

The shooting occurred shortly before 5 o'clock, when it was still dark, and the position of the detective and his special agents was made known by the flashlight beams of the train.

As soon as the train reached Clifton Forge the Richmond office of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway was notified, and at 6 o'clock the special train carrying Dr. Johnston and Oppenheimer and Mrs. Scherer had been made up and was on its way. The tracks were cleared for its passing, and, after a quick run, they arrived in Clifton Forge at 11:45 o'clock.

ACHIEVED FAME IN BEATTIE CASE

Mr. Scherer, who has figured in hundreds of other criminal cases, achieved his chief fame through his work connected with the Beattie murder. It was he who gathered the evidence in all the widely varied evidence in this case and presented it to L. O. Wendenburg, chief prosecutor, in such form that it was found to be unimpeachable when put in the record. It was said at the time, and it is said now, that Mr. Scherer had more to do with the conviction of the murderer than any other man, and that it needed only Mr. Wendenburg's clear reasoning and

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C. & O. Agent Desperately Wounded



LUTHER L. SCHERER.

REPORT ON WEAKNESS OF NATIONAL DEFENSES

Major-General Wetherpoon, Chief of Staff of Army, Lays Conditions Bare.

NO AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Without Material Improvement, Panama Canal, Philippines, Alaska and Hawaiian Islands All Unprotected Against Foreign Attack.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] NEW YORK, December 3.—Major-General W. W. Wetherpoon, chief of staff of the United States Army, has informed President Wilson that it would be impossible to protect the Panama Canal from a foe in the present state of the national defenses.

The Philippines, Alaska and the Hawaiian Islands, he declares, are all in a similar defenseless condition. "That the great waterway of the Panama Canal will be unprotected against the operations of a first-class military power," says General Wetherpoon, "by the present or proposed change in conditions at home, which, without the power and ability to reinforce it rapidly by troops from the United States, is manifest."

He adds: "Without a material change in conditions at home, we have no available resources, even should time be given to us to do so."

This revelation of the weakness of the national defenses is made in a report dated November 15, 1914, which General Wetherpoon made to Secretary of War Garrison, by whom it was referred to the President.

In other respects the report is sensational in the confirmation it gives of the uniformed head of the army of the charge made from outside sources of the complete inadequacy of the present establishment to cope with any emergency which might arise. He notes the fact quite incidentally, for instance, that the army is 154 officers and 7,333 enlisted men below its authorized strength, and that there is a total deficiency in the Coast Artillery Corps of the regular army and the organized militia of 856 officers and 24,459 enlisted men.

It was through figures officially supplied in reports by General Wetherpoon that the first inkling was obtained that there is only sufficient ammunition on hand for our coast defenses to give half an hour's battle to an enemy. To this also he added in General Wetherpoon's own words as presented to the President:

"The deficiencies in the matter of fire control and searchlights are of the most serious character. As a matter of fact, proper fire control and searchlight installation is only maintained in a limited number of first-class defense areas, the remainder of the fire control systems and searchlight equipment being deficient or improvised."

WETHERPOON DESCRIBES OTHER DEFICIENCIES

Describing other deficiencies, General Wetherpoon says: "The deficiency in the coast artillery branch is 230 officers and 11,321 enlisted men. As to the material necessary to put this force into the field and maintain it there for six months—and the first six months of a war may be the most vital period—there is a very decided deficiency in many important respects. For instance, there are only 550 horses available for use in drill and instruction of the

(Continued on Third Page.)

TORPEDO EQUIPMENT OF NAVY NOT DEFECTIVE

Popular Exaggeration of Shortcomings Subject of Statement by Daniels.

CARRIES REPORT BY STRAUSS

Issued Particularly to Prove Misleading Declaration by Representative Gardner Concerning Lack of Long-Range Missiles on New Battleships.

WASHINGTON, December 3.—What officials regard as popular exaggeration of admitted defects in the American navy's torpedo equipment was the subject of a statement issued to-night by Secretary Daniels, embodying a special report from Rear-Admiral Strauss, chief of the Bureau of Ordnance. Specifically, the statement was prepared to prove misleading a declaration that, "of long-range torpedoes, there are only fifty-eight in the navy," quoted from a speech by Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts, who is urging the administration to support his resolution for an investigation of the navy's military preparedness.

STAFF BY ORDNANCE CHIEF "This statement standing by itself is calculated to leave a false impression," said Mr. Daniels. "In view of repeated statements that the navy has only fifty-eight long-range torpedoes, the chief of the Bureau of Ordnance has been asked to furnish a statement concerning the torpedo situation and has complied as follows:

"The fifty-eight long-range torpedoes so often referred to as the only ones the navy possesses are of the twenty-one-inch, twenty-one-foot type, and there is no ship in the United States Navy in commission that is prepared to take them. They were manufactured for new ships under construction, beginning with the Nevada and the Oklahoma, and the two ships will not go into commission until about the end of next year."

"Beginning with the Virginia class, which went into commission principally in 1906, and including Texas, which went into commission this year, all the battleships are provided with twenty-one-inch, seventeen-foot tubes. Within the last two years it was found necessary to improve the twenty-one-inch seventeen-foot torpedo as to practically double its range, and steps were taken at once to construct new torpedoes having the increased range. We already have a sufficient number of these longer range torpedoes to outfit the eight most recent Dreadnoughts in commission, and that is the equipment that they will have on board."

LONG-RANGE TORPEDOES FOR ALL BATTLESHIPS

"In addition to the above, there are being manufactured at the government works, at Newport, and the Bliss works, at Brooklyn, a sufficient number to provide all of the battleships of the United States Navy with the long-range torpedo."

"All of the armored cruisers except four and all of the older destroyers are provided with nineteen-inch tubes. At 1906, as warfare is of such a character as to make it advisable to use short-range, high-speed torpedoes, and that is the class that submarines are being furnished with. The Aboukir, Cressy and Hague were torpedoed recently. It will be recalled, at a range of 500 yards."

ISSUED BY FRENCH

PARIS, December 3 (10:50 P. M.).—The following official communication was issued by the War Office to-night: "The following interesting news relates to our right wing and to the whole of the Tete de l'Est, south of the village Bonhomme, which dominates the range of hills forming the frontier, and has served as an observatory for the Germans."

"In Alsace, the station of Burnhaupt

CONTINUE ADVANCE FROM PRYZEMYSL WITHOUT CHECK

Apparent That New Battle Develops Southwest of Lodz.

FRESH GERMAN FORCES ON THIS FIGHTING FRONT

Kaiser's Soldiers Again Trying to Penetrate Russian Centre.

LULL IN WESTERN CONFLICT

No Change to Prompt Italy to Alter Neutrality Policy, Premier Announces.

Little Information Regarding Operations

WITH hundreds of thousands of men fighting along the battle fronts in the eastern and western theatres of Europe, the official statements you have little information regarding actual operations. Apparently only on the Przemysl front in France have the troops of the opposing nations shown any particular activity of late. The French report the occupation of Lesmenles and one of the signal stations at Xon, on the right bank of the Moselle. Likewise in the Vosges, the French have taken an observation point previously occupied by the Germans.

In Poland, where all eyes are fixed, the Germans, after extricating themselves from a difficult and menacing position, are directing their efforts against the Russian army, which failed a few days ago to encompass the invaders. The Petrograd view of the situation is that the "warfare campaign of the Germans appears to have resolved itself into a persistent and dogged grinding against the Russian front with the aid of recently arrived heavy reinforcements."

Nineteen thousand Serbian prisoners are said to have been taken by the Austrians, and the Russian present offensive movement, and Serbia's casualties since the beginning of the war are estimated at 100,000.

Italy will maintain an attitude of "loyal but watchful and armed neutrality" if she follows the advice of Premier Salandra.

The French Cabinet will return to Paris from Bordeaux, and the French have fresh forces bogged in the operations in the irregular France around the town of Wiellucka, which they occupied yesterday, and from which the outer forts of Cracow can be reached.

It is apparent, however, that a new battle has developed southwest of Lodz, where the Germans have formed a new line with fresh forces brought from Kallise, and are again trying to penetrate the Russian centre.

MUST TURN ATTENTION TO RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE

The Russians, too, have had time to straighten out their line, and, in the eyes of the British, are following so closely that just concluded in this region must help them in the long run, for it is argued, win or lose, the German front must be further weakened, and in addition, soon will have their attention to the Russian offensive against Silesia and around Cracow.

On the other hand, German experts believe that the Russian offensive would enable the German generals to unite all their forces for another blow against the allies in the west.

There has been no news for several days of the fighting in the Caucasus or in Egypt, but throughout the whole of Africa more liveliness is anticipated now that General Christian de Wet has been captured, and General Louis Botha can carry out his original plan of moving against German Southwest Africa. The first Australian and New Zealand contingents have been landed in Egypt for operations against the Turks, and Portugal and the United States have reached Angola to take the offensive against the Germans on their African borders.

The political event of the day was the Premier of Italy's announcement that nothing had intervened to prompt Italy to alter her policy of neutrality.

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARIS, December 3 (10:50 P. M.).—The following official communication was issued by the War Office to-night: "The following interesting news relates to our right wing and to the whole of the Tete de l'Est, south of the village Bonhomme, which dominates the range of hills forming the frontier, and has served as an observatory for the Germans."

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